



STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

KRISTI NOEM | GOVERNOR

August 29, 2022

Dear Members of the South Dakota Legislature,

It is our duty as elected officials to deliver free and fair elections -- the people of South Dakota deserve no less. Those elections must have integrity. Our American form of government is built on the people's voice, which they speak at the ballot box. I appreciate the attention of the legislature on this important issue, and I am proud of what we've accomplished together to strengthen South Dakota's already excellent election laws.

Further, I agree with the legislators who wrote to me last week -- all aspects of state and local government in South Dakota would do well to conduct our elections in a transparent fashion. That also includes ensuring that the right to vote is not tainted by illegal ballot harvesting or improperly "stuffed" ballot boxes.

My team is actively researching potential legislation for the upcoming legislative session that will further guarantee free and fair elections in South Dakota.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kristi Noem".

Kristi Noem
Governor

CC: Representative Aaron Aylward
Representative Drew Dennert
Representative Fred Deutsch
Representative Randy Gross
Representative Jon Hansen
Representative Taffy Howard
Representative Kevin Jensen
Representative Phil Jensen
Representative Chris Karr
Representative Sam Marty
Representative Liz May
Representative John Mills

Representative Tina Mulally
Representative Scott Odenbach
Representative Ernie Otten
Representative Marty Overweg
Representative Carl Perry
Representative Sue Peterson
Representative Tom Pischke
Representative Tony Randolph
Representative Bethany Soye
Representative Kaleb Weis
Senator Julie Frye-Mueller
Senator Marsha Symens